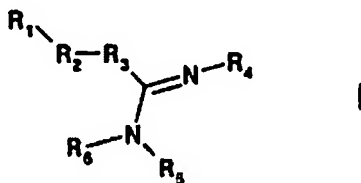


AMENDMENTS TO AND LISTING OF CLAIMS

Kindly amend the Claims as follows:

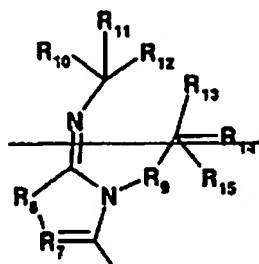
1. (Currently amended [second time]) A compound of formula I:



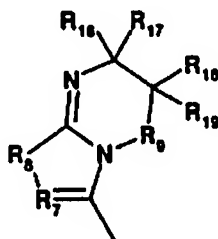
wherein

R₁ is a residue of formula (a), (b) or (c)

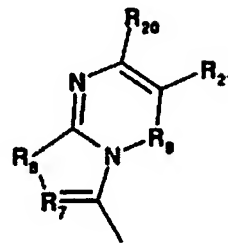
(a)



(b)



(c)



R₂ is $-(CR_{22}R_{23})_{1-3}-$ or $-C(O)-$;

each of R₃ and R₈ independently is S;

each of R₄ and R₅, independently, is optionally R₂₅-substituted C₃-C₁₂-cycloalkyl, C₁-C₁₂-alkyl or saturated C₈₋₁₂-polycyclic residue; or optionally R₂₆- and/or R₂₇-substituted aryl, arylC₁₋₄-alkyl or heteroaryl; wherein up to 4 carbon atoms of R₄ and/or R₅ are optionally substituted by S, O or NR₂₄;

R₆ is H; C₁-C₆-alkyl; C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl; or optionally R₂₆- and/or R₂₇-substituted aryl, arylC₁₋₄-alkyl or heteroaryl;

R₇ is CR₂₈ or N;

R₉ is a direct bond; ~~(GR₂₂R₂₃)₁₋₂~~; or NR₂₄;

each of ~~R₁₀₋₂₃~~, R₁₆, R₁₇, R₁₈, R₁₉, R₂₀, R₂₁, and R₂₈, independently, is H; F; Cl; Br; C₁-C₆-alkyl; C₂-C₆-alkoxyalkyl; C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl; C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl; optionally R₂₆- and/or R₂₇-substituted aryl or heteroaryl; CONR₂₉R₃₀; COOR₂₉; CN; NO₂; or OR₃₁; or

~~two of R₁₀₋₁₉ which are attached to the same carbon atom, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a 3-7 membered nonaromatic ring optionally containing up to two heteroatoms selected independently from N, O and S; or R₁₇ and R₁₈ together with the C atoms to which they are attached, form a 4-7 membered nonaromatic ring optionally containing up to two heteroatoms selected independently from N, O and S; or~~

~~R₂₀ and R₂₁, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form an optionally R₂₆- and/or R₂₇-substituted aryl or heteroaryl;~~

each of R₂₄, R₂₉ and R₃₀, independently, is H; C₁-C₆-alkyl; C₂-C₆-alkoxyalkyl; C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl; C₃-C₇-cycloalkyl; or optionally R₂₆- and/or R₂₇-substituted aryl, arylC₁₋₄-alkyl or heteroaryl;

R₂₅ represents 1-to-4 substituents each, independently, H; F; Cl; Br; C₁-C₆-alkyl; C₂-C₆-alkoxyalkyl; C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl; C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl; optionally R₂₆- and/or R₂₇-substituted aryl or heteroaryl; CONR₂₉R₃₀; COOR₂₉; CN; NO₂; or OR₃₁

~~having one of the significances given for R₁₀₋₂₃ above;~~

R₂₆ represents 1-to-4 substituents each, independently, selected from C₁-C₆-alkyl; C₁-C₆-hydroxyalkyl; C₂-C₆-alkoxyalkyl; C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl; C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl; C₂-C₆-alkenyl; C₃-C₆-cycloalkenyl; C₂-C₆-alkynyl; aryl; heteroaryl; heteroaryl N-oxide; F; Cl; Br; I; OH; OR₄; CONH₂; CONHR₄; CONR₄R₄; OC(O)R₄; OC(O)OR₄; OC(O)NHR₄; OC(O)NR₄R₄; OSO₂R₄; COOH; COOR₄; CF₃; CHF₂; CH₂F; CN; NO₂; NH₂; NHR₄; NR₄R₄; NHC(O)R₄; NR₄C(O)R₄; NHC(O)NHR₄; NHC(O)NH₂; NR₄C(O)NHR₄; NR₄C(O)NR₄R₄; NHC(O)OR₄; NR₄C(O)OR₄; NHSO₂R₄; N(SO₂R₄)₂; NR₄SO₂R₄; SR₄; S(O)R₄; SO₂R₄; Si(CH₃)₃ and B(OC(CH₃)₂)₂;

R₂₇ represents two adjacent substituents which form an annulated 4-7-membered nonaromatic ring optionally containing up to two heteroatoms selected,

independently, from N, O and S;

R₃₁ is C₁-C₆-alkyl; C₃-C₇-cycloalkyl; optionally R₂₆- and/or R₂₇-substituted aryl, arylC₁₋₄-alkyl or heteroaryl; or CF₃;

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1, which is selected from 1,3-dicyclohexyl-2-(5,6-dihydro-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1-cyclohexyl-3-cyclopentyl-2-(5,6-dihydro-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1-cycloheptyl-3-cyclohexyl-2-(5,6-dihydro-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1,3-dicycloheptyl-2-(5,6-dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1-cyclohexyl-3-cyclooctyl-2-(5,6-dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1,3-dicyclohexyl-2-(6,6-dimethyl-5,6-dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea, 1,3-dicyclooctyl-2-(5,6-dihydro[[⁻]]imidazo[2,1b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea and 1,3-dicycloheptyl-2-(6,6-dimethyl-5,6-dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-3-ylmethyl)-isothiourea.

3. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 in free form or in a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt form ~~in association with~~ and a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier therefor.

4-6. (Withdrawn by the Examiner)

7. (Withdrawn by the Examiner, subject to rejoinder)

8-15. (Withdrawn by the Examiner)